

pended, have afforded Mr. J. C. Hook admirable opportunity of revelling in his refined love of gorgeous colour, and exhibits an advance. We look upon Mr. Hook as one of the most promising painters of our school, and these elegant productions (perhaps a little too elegant) help to confirm our opinion. With careful gleanings from Giorgione and others as precedent, and an appreciation of what is good amongst modern masters, he has formed a most agreeable and distinguishing "style."

Mr. Poole has as usual produced something startling: his power over material was never better exemplified than in (389), "The Messenger announcing to Job the Irupution of the Sabean, and the Slaughter of the Servants." The singular gloom that pervades this, supporting the luminous quality of the intensely bright draperies, the fine figure of the messenger, who in his unaffected pose keeps his place quite marvellously, and the effect of light and colour, excite wonder and admiration. No picture in the collection exhibits more power or higher intention.

(305) "Crossing the Brook," J. Lannell. An essentially English landscape, and as essentially a Lannell, with all his fine characteristics; distance painted as none other can paint it, and all faithfully transcribed from pure nature, in a manner proverbially free and true.

PICTURES BOUGHT BY ART-UNION OF LONDON.

The following is a list of the principal pictures selected by the Art-Union of London prizeholders up to this date:—"James II. in his Palace at Whitehall," E. M. Ward, A.R.A. (from R.A.); "Grielda," &c., Redgrave, A.R.A. (R.A.), 231l.; "Porto Texario, Gulf of Spezia," G. E. Hering (B.I.), 150l.; "Peter denying Christ," J. Hollins, A.R.A. (R.A.), 150l.; "San-Pietro, near Verona," J. D. Harding (R.A.), 100l.; "View of Ben Crachan," Copley, Fielding (W. C. S.), 84l.; "The Odd Trick," T. Clater (S. B. A.), 70l.; "A Storm clearing off," A. W. Williams (N. I.), 70l.; "Waterfall near Hag," W. West (S. B. A.), 80l.; "A Scene during the Invasion of Italy by Charles VIII.," F. R. Pickersgill, A.R.A. (R.A.), 70l.; "The Sun dispelling a Mist," H. P. Parker (N. I.), 60l.; "Here's his Health in Water," R. R. M'lan (N. I.), 50l.; "A Gipsy Family," W. Shayer (S. B. A.), 50l.; "View from the Heights of Abraham, Madlock," J. Tennant (S. B. A.), 50l.; "Going to Service," J. H. Moie (N. W. C. S.), 75l.; "Hawkers of Balica," &c., James Godwin (B. I.), 53l. 3s.; "The Country Inn," W. Shayer (S. B. A.), 52l. 10s.; "Ben Nevis from Loch Eil," W. C. Smith (W. C. S.), 52l. 10s.; "Dieppe, Coast of Normandy," T. L. Rowbotham (N. W. C. S.), 40l.; "Autumn Scene in Wales," H. J. Bodington (R.A.), 40l.; "Piazzetta del San Marco," J. Holland (B. I.), 40l.; "On the Sledder," A. Clint (S. B. A.), 40l.; "Kirby Lonsdale and Valley of the Lune," H. Juxon (B. I.), 40l.; "Peveril Castle, Derbyshire," J. Tennant (S. B. A.), 52l. 10s.; "From Rogers' 'Pleasures of Memory,'" H. Mapleton (N. W. C. S.), 25l.; "Mount Bay, Cornwall," J. W. Arnould (R.A.), 25l.; "The Burning Glass," W. Hemmley (N. I.), 25l.; "A Summer Morning on the Coast," F. B. Clater (S. B. A.), 25l.; "A Dutch Madonna," C. Broocky (B. I.), 25l.; "From the 'Library of Useful Knowledge,'" G. H. Laporte (N. W. C. S.), 20l.; "A Summer's Evening," G. A. Williams (N. I.), 20l.; "A Mountain Stream," H. Bright (R.A.), 21l.; "Scene in a North Welsh Valley," J. Wilson, Jun. (S. B. A.), 20l.; "Blackberries," W. Hunt (W. C. S.), 18l. 18s.; "Wreck on the Coast of North Wales," C. Bentley (W. C. S.), 21l. &c.

THE PORTSMOUTH STATUES.—The statues of the Duke of Wellington and Lord Viscount Nelson, which have been sculptured in London by Mr. Milnes for Lord Frederick Fitzclarence, have arrived at Portsmouth. The statues are a little larger than life, standing about 7 feet high. The pedestals are square, of Portland stone. The careless mistake has been made of placing the Duke's foot on the Galle-Cock. This should be altered forth-

MULLION: BITTON CHURCH, GLOUCESTER.

Will you kindly allow me a corner in your valuable and interesting periodical for an architectural note and query?

Can any of your readers name a locality or date of a mullion moulded in this way? The



fillets, instead of being parallel with the face of the wall, are cut square with the chamfer of the mullion. This form of mullion exists in two three-light perpendicular windows, on the south side of Bitton Church, county of Gloucester.

The weather label is curved on the top: the terminations are cut into a single leaf foliage. The work is not in sections, nor restorations, for all the jamb-stones are tailed into and accord with the range work of the wall. Between these two windows there is a Norman doorway ("closed 1822") of an older building; and, on the same side of the church, there is another three-light window, which, to hasty observers, is exactly like its next neighbour, but the fillets in that are wrought in the usual way, the top of the weather label is ogeed, and the terminations ("kneelers," as they are called in Gloucester) are square returns. In the "eyes" of this last window are remains of flower-pattern glass of the age of Edward IV. or Henry VI.'s latter years.

I hope you will oblige me by thus advertising this singular mullion.

H. T. ELLACOMB.

ERECTION OF CLUB DWELLINGS.

MANY of the suggestions for club dwellings for the working classes, proposed in *THE BUILDER* so long ago as 18th April, 1846, have been adopted in model lodging-houses that have since been erected, as for instance, a separate chamber for each individual, dining and coffee-rooms, and a library; but as others of the recommendations seem to have been overlooked, it may be of use to recal them to the attention of your readers.

In that communication it was proposed that the roof should be "flat, for recreation in fine weather." Operatives, as masons and bricklayers, whose work is out of doors, would, it is true, after a hard day's labour, be disposed to sit quietly down in a comfortable room, yet men of in-door callings, bookbinders and printers for example, would enjoy an hour's recreation in the open air, though it were but on a terraced roof: one of 400 feet in length would suffice for healthful exercise at bowls or other play, and fancy can figure the terrace surrounded with pots of sweet gay flowers, especially where the dwellings below were for married persons. In a moral point of view it seems a desideratum to afford means of diversion at home, thus to wean the working man from the gin or beer-shop. Another important use for a flat roof was indicated: it "would afford superior play-ground for children than—new their only one—the street, and much juvenile depravity would thus be avoided."

Another of the recommendations not yet adopted is that of a small infirmary in connection with a self-supporting dispensary. The infirmary would be eminently advantageous in cases of contagious disorders: self-supporting dispensaries are just coming into general estimation, and, indeed, they merit it. An institution of this nature, lately established at Hampstead, has been attended with most gratifying results. The working classes, when in health and full work, contribute a small weekly sum: for this, without farther charge, in cases of illness, they receive the best medical advice the place affords, and unsophisticated medicines. In checking maladies the dispensary works admirably; for, there being nothing to pay, it is resorted to on the first slight symptom of disease, and, by the prompt administration of proper remedies, many a long confinement to a bed of sickness has been prevented. In the worst time of cholera, many hundred cases of the pro-

monitory symptoms of it were treated with success. Out of nearly 12,000 inhabitants, there were only eight deaths from this dread disease, and some of these were importations from town.

The proposal of a "drying room for wet apparel and shoes" should not be overlooked, for many are the maladies which have been brought on by sitting down in wet clothing, by drying it in sleeping rooms, or by putting it on still wet in the morning. Court Rumford, nearly sixty years ago, had in his house a drying chamber, through which a current of hot air constantly passed; and lately Mr. Acland has caused those farm labourers that he boards to change at meal times their working smock frocks for clean ones, and finds the regulation productive of much good order and general habits of cleanliness.

In model lodging-houses, an approximation is making by degrees to the club kitchens proposed. In a late building, there is an established cook, from whom dressed provisions can be purchased; but this arrangement does not give the benefit of economical management to the inmates, nor yet the advantages resulting from the purchase of provisions in large quantities. While model lodging-houses are novelties, and supervised by societies anxious to insure their success, the cook will doubtless supply good provisions at a reasonable charge; but after a time it is to be feared that the model kitchen will become like most other cook-shops: the articles supplied will be of as low priced quality as the customers will tolerate, and the charges for them the highest likely to be submitted to.

In the communication referred to, it was observed that "buildings on the same general plan might be constructed for single women; although as their earnings are comparatively very small, the accommodations to be provided would be necessarily on a smaller scale. In this case also, the reading-room would become a work-room for such of the inmates as might be sempstresses: their minds and morals, might, it is confidently hoped, be greatly improved, were some one (perhaps some benevolent visiting lady) to read aloud during the weary hours they were labouring at their needle. In truth, to persons conversant with the hardships females of this class endure, and the temptations to which they are subjected, it may seem that cheap respectable lodgings for women and girls are more required than for men."

It would be real benevolence were architects to bestow time and skill in contriving lodgings that could be afforded to females at a very low rent. At present many much-enduring women have to pay two shillings a week, or more, for a miserable unfurnished room, but from poverty are obliged to share their bed with some other woman, who pays half the rent and half the cost of candles and fuel. It would be desirable therefore that, if possible, lodgings should be furnished for females at not more than twopenny a night, the use of a work-room well warmed and lighted included in that sum, as also the privilege of obtaining food from a general kitchen, and the occasional enjoyment of baths, washhouses, &c.

Needlewomen and others obtaining but a bare livelihood by their utmost exertions, have rarely time to spare for cooking food: their diet, consequently, is often bread alone, with an occasional treat of cheese. Were a general club kitchen established, more healthy fare might be provided in it at even less cost than the bread and cheese is obtained at. This is no visionary statement, it is founded on facts. Meat soup has been furnished this winter of excellent quality, at a penny a pint, which covered all expenses for its preparation; and this, it must be remembered, although the meat and other ingredients of the soup were purchased at high retail prices, and the cooking rather extravagantly paid for. Mr. Acland, in the "Journal of the English Agricultural Society," gives the receipt for a much cheaper and highly-nourishing soup. It is prepared with meat and vegetables, thickened with sago, and costs him; labour and fuel included, scarcely more than one halfpenny a quart, at which price he provides it to his farm labourers. Wholesome bread might be made in the establishment at a much lower cost than poor women can purchase bakers' bread for: tea, coffee, cocoa, could be made in large quan-

This has also been adopted in the building for St. Martin's Northern schools, Long Acre, illustrated by us some time ago.